

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas of California, coupled with it's advisory that opposing candidates can "foot their own bill," is yet another violation by a powerful media group of the trust placed in it by the public (via the FCC) to access and command our public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate hq decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard.

Please take action to stop this brazenly unbalanced 'donation' Pappas is offering and restore standards of equality to the broadcasting forum. Thank you.